

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of debugging code that executes in a multithreaded processor having a plurality of microengines comprises:
- inserting a segment of executable code into an unused section of a target microengine's microstore in response to a first context swap of one of a plurality of hardware-supported execution threads of a program executing in the target microengine;
 - executing the segment of executable code; and
 - resuming execution of the program in response to a second context swap.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein inserting comprises:
- saving program counters associated with the plurality of hardware-supported execution threads;
 - modifying the target microengine's program counters to jump to a start of the segment of executable code; and
 - appending the saved program counters to an end of the segment of executable code.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein inserting further comprises receiving a user request to execute the segment of executable code.

1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein executing further comprises
2 examining states of the execution threads at the second
3 context swap.

1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein resuming further comprises
2 removing the segment of executable code from the microstore.

1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein resuming comprises
2 restoring the programs counters of the plurality of hardware-
3 supported execution threads that have not executed.

1 7. The method of claim 1 wherein the segment of executable
2 code resides in a library executable code segments residing in
3 the processor.

1 8. A method of debugging software that executes in a
2 multithreaded processor having a plurality of microengines
3 comprises:

4 pausing program execution in a plurality of threads of
5 execution within a target microengine;

6 inserting a segment of executable code into an unused
7 section of the target microengine's microstore;

8 executing the segment of executable code in the target
9 microengine; and

10 resuming program execution in the target microengine.

1 9. The method of claim 8 wherein pausing is in response to a
2 user command to pause.

1 10. The instruction of claim 8 wherein the user command to
2 pause further comprises selecting the target microengine from
3 one of the plurality of microengines.

1 11. The method of claim 10 wherein the user command to pause
2 further comprises selecting the segment of executable code.

1 12. The method of claim 8 wherein pausing further comprises
2 determining when one of the plurality of threads of execution
3 context swaps.

1 13. The method of claim 8 wherein inserting further
2 comprises:

3 modifying a program counter of the paused program to
4 point to the segment of executable code; and
5 modifying a program counter at an end of the segment of
6 executable code to point to the paused program.

1 14. The method of claim 8 wherein the segment of executable
2 code causes the target microengine to write to specific
3 registers.

1 15. The method of claim 14 wherein the specific registers are
2 examined by a user during execution of the segment of
3 executable code.

1 16. A processor that can execute multiple contexts and that
2 comprises:

3 a register stack;

4 a program counter for each executing context;
5 an arithmetic logic unit coupled to the register stack
6 and a program control store that stores a breakpoint command
7 that causes the processor to:
8 pause program execution in a context in the processor;
9 insert a segment of executable code into an used section
10 of a microstore associated with the context;
11 execute the segment of executable code; and
12 resume program execution.

1 17. The processor of claim 16 wherein program execution is
2 paused by disabling a processor enable bit.

1 18. The processor of claim 16 wherein the segment is inserted
2 in response to a user request received through a remote user
3 interface connected to the processor.

1 19. The processor of claim 16 wherein an end of the segment
2 points to a program counter of the program.

1 20. The processor of claim 16 wherein the segment examines
2 states of execution of the contexts.

1 21. The processor of claim 16 wherein program execution is
2 resumed by enabling a processor enable bit.

1 22. A computer program product, disposed on a computer
2 readable medium, the product including instructions for
3 causing a multithreaded processor having a plurality of
4 microengines to:

5 pause program execution in a plurality of threads of
6 execution within a target microengine;

7 insert a segment of executable code into an unused
8 section of the target microengine's microstore;

9 execute the segment of executable code in the target
10 microengine; and

11 resume program execution in the target microengine.